

# **TOWN OF FREMONT NH**

## **THE 2009 DELIBERATIVE SESSION SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 2009 ELLIS SCHOOL 9:00 AM**

Town Moderator Robert Rydeen called the first session of the Annual Town Meeting to order at 9:05 AM in Pettingill Hall at the Ellis School. He asked all in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, which was led by Police Chief Neal Janvrin. Chief Janvrin then requested a moment of silence for the service men and women who are serving Our Country.

Moderator Rydeen proceeded to read the names of the candidates who declared their candidacy for Town Offices and also for School District positions. He explained he would be using a modified version of "Roberts Rules of Order" as a guide to run the meeting. Printed copies of these rules were available.

He introduced those seated at the head table: Selectmen Gene Cordes, Brett Hunter and Donald Gates Jr.; Town Administrator Heidi Carlson, Town Attorney John Ryan and Town Clerk Lori Holmes; Members of the Budget Committee Pat Martel, Doug McElroy, Rich Violette, Charles Kimball, Andy Kohlhofer, Mike Nygren and Peg Pinkham.

Selectmen recognized the following residents: Trudie Butler who has served as Town Health officer for 16 years (retiring this May) and as a State Representative from 1978 – 1990; Richard Heselton who served as Fire Chief for 32 years (retired last spring) and Neal Janvrin who will mark 20 years as Police Chief this March.

Don Gates and Brett Hunter took a moment to recognize fellow Selectman Gene Cordes who has served on the Board of Selectmen for the past 18 years (retiring in March). They acknowledged his extraordinary service to the community and commended him for his dedication and determination over the past 18 years. Gene thanked them and the community. He said his time serving the residents of Fremont has been a tremendous and unique experience and has afforded him the opportunity to forge many friendships.

Moderator Rydeen explained that Articles 1 & 2 would not be discussed as they do not require any action and cannot be changed at this time.

**ARTICLE 1:** To choose by ballot all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE 2:** Are you in favor of amending the Fremont Zoning Ordinance by adding new Article IV-3:A follows:

Article IV Section 3-A

As it relates to Article IV Section 3 and Article XI Section E-1; where-ever a commercial use or a mixed use of residential and commercial are proposed on the same lot the minimum lot size

shall be further determined in that each 2000 square feet (or any part thereof) of commercial use shall constitute a calculate-able unit for the purpose of determining the minimum lot size. The lot size minimum is as determined by Article IV Section 3 and/or Article XI Section E-1; whichever applies.

Examples:

The minimum lot size for consideration of commercial Conditional Use Permit in the Flexible Use District would be 2 acres or if in the Aquifer Protection District the minimum lot size for a commercial conditional use permit would be 3 acres.

A proposed 10,000 sq ft commercial

A 10,000 square foot commercial use outside of the Aquifer District would require a total of 4.3 acres. Calculation:  $10,000/2000 = 5$  units and minimum lot size is 2 acres, 2 acres plus 20,000 sq ft times the number of units (5) of calculation = 4.3 acres.

A proposed 4000 square foot mixed use w/3 residential

A mixed use 4,000 square foot commercial with 3 residential 2 bedroom dwelling units. The lot is outside the Aquifer. Calculation:  $4,000/2000 = 2$  plus 3 dwelling units = 5 calculate-able units and the minimum lot size is 2 acres, 2 acres plus 20,000 sq ft times the number of units (5) of calculation = 4.3 acres.

(See also Article XI Section E-1)

**ARTICLE 3:** Shall the Town of Fremont raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,541,438? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,531,763, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Fremont or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 3 and opened the floor for discussion.

Road Agent Guerwood Holmes made a motion to amend Article 3. He asked to increase the bottom line by \$5,000 for highway winter sand. Peg Pinkham seconded.

Andy Kohlhofer called for a point of order. He asked if he could present the report of the Budget Committee before continuing with Article 3. Mr. Kohlhofer then proceeded to give the report of the Budget Committee. He highlighted what was not recommended by the Committee and gave rationale for why the Committee recommended the amounts they did. He then stated that he does not recommend the proposed increase asked for by the Road Agent.

Peg Pinkham asked Road Agent Holmes how he arrived at the \$5,000 amount.

Mr. Holmes said that with the number of storms we have had over the past few weeks, he realized that the amount of money in the budget would not cover the rest of this winter. He stated that Fremont still mixes sand and salt while most towns use straight salt. He has always tried to keep the highway funding as minimal as possible for the taxpayers while doing his best to keep the roads as safe as possible.

Reese Bassett, Police Lieutenant, thanked the Budget Committee for their efforts and for being so diligent. He stated that the Police Department is fully aware of the hard economic times and sharpened their pencils to put forth a budget that has nothing more than what is necessary. He gave an explanation of what the Police Department budgeted for and the reasons for those requests.

Call the question was moved and seconded.

**AMENDED ARTICLE 3:** Shall the Town of Fremont raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$2,546,438? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,531,763, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town of Fremont or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only.

Amendment passed. *Article 3 will appear on the ballot as amended.*

Selectman Gene Cordes asked Dick Rand to come forward. The Selectmen presented Dick with the Town Report Appreciation award. Gene spoke about what a hard worker Dick is and he always has a smile on his face. He does a great deal for the Town in terms of buildings and grounds maintenance and has a skill set for every project. Dick received a huge round of applause.

**ARTICLE 4:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the Highway Building Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation and the Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 4 and opened the floor for discussion.

Guerwood Holmes explained that there is currently \$112,000 in the account. He stated it would cost approximately \$200,000 to build a new building.

Andy Kohlhofer said that before we build a building, the Budget Committee has requested a study committee to research if it would be beneficial to purchase our own equipment or continue hiring independent contractors.

Ida Keane asked if the tax impact could be given for each Article. It was pointed out that it is printed on the Warrant Article Narrative handout.

Allen Copp stated that he would like to see the money go toward the purchase of Town equipment, instead of toward a building.

Mary Kaltenbach offered a point of clarification. The Articles will appear on the ballot, and we are here today to discuss and approve the final wording of each article for the ballot.

Andy Kohlhofer made a motion to amend Article 4 to \$1.00. Rich Violette seconded.

Theresa Blades asked wouldn't it be cheaper to put a little away each year than to have to come up with one lump sum at one time.

Donald Miller stated that most of the surrounding towns have a highway shed. He continued to say that the tax impact for Article 4 is equivalent to 2 cups of coffee.

Amendment is defeated. *Article 4 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 3 and 4. Reese Bassett seconded this. The motion to restrict reconsideration of Articles 3 and 4 passed.

**ARTICLE 5:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500) to be placed in the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation. The Budget Committee does not recommend the appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 5 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer made a motion to amend the dollar amount to \$1,500. Pat Martel seconded.

Lieutenant Reese Bassett spoke to the Article. He explained how the rotation of the police vehicles works, and the need for a new vehicle every two years. He strongly urged those in attendance to not support the amendment.

Mr. Kohlhofer said that Article 16 is also requesting a vehicle. The Budget Committee does not recommend Article 16.

Peg Pinkham made a motion to table Article 5 until Article 16 is voted on. Charles Kimball seconded.

The motion to table Article 5 until after Article 16 is voted on passes.

Matthew Thomas made a motion to limit each speaker to four (4) minutes. Peg Pinkham seconded.

Moderator Rydeen stated that a moderator is elected and hopes his judgment in how long a speaker is at the microphone would be considered.

Mr. Thomas stated that the voting body should be allowed to make the rules.

The motion to limit time to four (4) minutes passed.

**ARTICLE 6:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Town Hall Renovations Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 6 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 6. *Article 6 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Lori Holmes moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 6. Gene Cordes seconded. The motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 6 passed.

**ARTICLE 7:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 7 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 7. *Article 7 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 7. Brett Hunter seconded. The motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 7 passed.

**ARTICLE 8:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) to be placed in the Expansion/Renovation of the Fremont Historic Museum Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 8 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 8. *Article 8 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes moved to restrict reconsideration on Article 8. Brett Hunter seconded. The motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 8 passed.

**ARTICLE 9:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 9 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 9. *Article 9 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Radio Communication Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 10 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 10. *Article 10 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes moved to restrict reconsideration on Articles 9 and 10. Brett Hunter seconded. The motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 9 and 10 passed.

**ARTICLE 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation and the Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 11 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer made a motion to amend the dollar amount to \$1.00. Pat Martel seconded.

Guerwood Holmes explained this Article is not for trucks or tractors; it is for replacement of existing equipment, i.e.; plows and sanders and the current town highway one-ton truck.

Peg Pinkham asked if the Budget Committee members would reconsider their decision or if Mr. Kohlhofer would withdraw his motion to amend to \$1.00.

The Amendment to Article 11 was defeated. *Article 11 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 12:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) for the purchase of a roller and trailer for the Highway Department; and further to authorize the withdrawal of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 12 and opened the floor for discussion.

Guerwood Holmes explained why the Highway Department needs a piece of equipment like this. He explained how this piece of equipment would be used.

Allen Copp stated that it would make more sense to have the money go toward the purchase of a more useful piece of Town equipment like a backhoe.

There was no further discussion. *Article 12 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 13:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of forty-nine thousand five hundred fifty dollars (\$49,550) to continue the Public Health Mosquito Control Program. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 13 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer explained why the Budget Committee did not recommend this Article.

Michael Morrison from Municipal Pest Management Services spoke about the positive reasons why mosquito control should be undertaken.

Marion Guidoboni asked if emergency spraying was done when EEE is identified in a town. She stated that she was in favor of spraying.

Bob Larson asked if there is statistical data showing that infections decline if you do spray?

Michael Morrison answered that statistical data supports that spraying helps deter the mosquito population. The largest part of the program is surveillance and larviciding, which reduces the larvae population, and thus there are fewer mosquitoes.

Theresa Blades said that if we can save even one a life, then it's worth it. You can't put a price on a life.

Matthew Thomas reminded the audience of those communities that have been infected with EEE, and stressed the importance of the program.

Mr. Kohlhofer asked Mr. Morrison that if we spray in Fremont, would it guarantee that no one in Fremont would be infected? Mr Morrison replied that no such guarantee could be made.

There was no further discussion. *Article 13 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes moved to restrict reconsideration on Articles 11, 12 and 13. Brett Hunter seconded. The vote to restrict reconsideration on Articles 11, 12, and 13 passed.

**ARTICLE 14:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-four thousand six hundred twenty dollars (\$74,620) to do paving and overlay work, and do associated shoulder work on sections of Rogers Road from Beede Hill Road to Shirkin Road; Shirkin Road from Beede Hill Road to Rogers Road; Bean Road between Pine Street and Beach Street; and to pave Clough Crossing. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 14 and opened the floor for discussion.

Guerwood Holmes explained Article 14.

Andy Kohlhofer explained the reasons that the Budget Committee recommended only \$67,240 of the requested \$74,620. He then made a motion to amend the dollar amount to \$67,240. Doug McElroy seconded.

Gene Cordes stated that we would be negligent if we don't fix our roads. He is against the amendment. Brett Hunter called the question. Lori Holmes seconded.

The Amendment failed. *Article 14 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 15:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand sixty-nine dollars (\$25,069) to purchase and equip a 2009 Police Cruiser for the Police Department; and further to authorize the withdrawal of twenty-five thousand sixty-nine dollars (\$25,069) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 15 and opened the floor for discussion.

Bob Larson asked if someone would explain how many vehicles the Police Department has and what their functions are?

Chief Janvrin answered that the Police Department has 2 marked vehicles, 1 unmarked vehicle and 1 utility vehicle. They also have a DARE vehicle, which was donated, 2 OHRV's purchased through a federal grant and 1 Animal Control vehicle.

There was no further discussion. *Article 15 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 16:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighteen thousand one hundred ninety-seven dollars (\$18,197) to purchase and equip a used vehicle for use by the detective/juvenile division of the Fremont Police Department; and further to authorize the withdrawal of eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000) from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 16 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer stated that the Budget Committee does not recommend the Article. He then made a motion to amend the dollar appropriation amount to \$0 and the withdrawal amount to \$0. Pat Martel seconded.

Lieutenant Reese Bassett explained that the car would not be limited to being a Detective car as it is titled, but will serve other purposes for other Officers. He spoke about the advantages of having an unmarked car in certain situations.



Tom Fontana stated that by making this line a \$0 it removes the decision from the larger population that will be voting in March.

Andy Kohlhofer stated that he continues to support the recommendation of the Budget Committee and the Selectmen to not purchase the detective vehicle.

Chief Janvrin urged voters not to support the amendment, and encouraged voters to support the original Article.

The Amendment failed. *Article 16 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 14, 15, and 16. Brett Hunter seconded. The vote to restrict reconsideration on Articles 14, 15, and 16 passed.

Rich Violette asked if Moderator Rydeen would consider a brief recess. The Moderator announced a 15-minute recess.

After a short break, the meeting resumed.

Peg Pinkham asked if Article 5 could be considered at this time. Moderator Rydeen re-read the amendment to Article 5.

The Amendment was defeated. *Article 5 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Chief Janvrin made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Article 5. Lori Holmes seconded. The vote to restrict reconsideration on Article 5 passed.

**ARTICLE 17:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) to perform an assessment recertification for the tax year beginning 04/01/2010 pursuant to NH DRA Rules; and further to authorize the withdrawal of seventy thousand dollars (\$70,000) from the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the recertification is complete or by December 31, 2010, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 17 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer talked about the various State mandates that are in place, and how the State requires the Towns to fund these mandates.

There was no discussion on Article 17. *Article 17 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 18:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one thousand six hundred fifteen dollars (\$1,615) for an increase in the Town Clerk's salary. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 18 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 18. *Article 18 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 19:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six hundred dollars (\$600) for an increase in the Treasurer's salary. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 19 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 19. *Article 19 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 20:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) for an increase in the Deputy Treasurer's stipend. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 20 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 20. *Article 20 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000) to renovate the basement of the Fremont Town Hall; and further to authorize the withdrawal of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Town Hall Renovation Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the renovations are complete or by December 31, 2010, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation and the Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 21 and opened the floor for discussion.

Gene Cordes explained what this Article encompasses. He spoke about the possibility of grant money.

Mr. Cordes then made a motion to amend Article 21 by placing the words "so long as the non-capital reserve funds come from grants and other non-Fremont taxpayer sources" after the word "purpose". Lori Holmes seconded.

Mary Kaltenbach asked if she could make an amendment to the amendment? Moderator Rydeen replied no.

Matthew Thomas asked what other sources the Selectmen were looking into besides grants.

Mr. Cordes stated that the Board wants to be ready if the ability for grant money or other avenues become available. Heidi Carlson explained further the provisions of grants and that this amendment means the project does not go ahead until it is completely funded from grants, capital reserves, or other non-taxpayer sources.

Gene Cordes called the question. Lori Holmes seconded.

**AMENDED ARTICLE 21:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred forty thousand dollars (\$240,000) to renovate the basement of the Fremont Town Hall; and further to authorize the withdrawal of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Town Hall Renovation Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose, so long as the non-capital reserve funds come from grants and other non-Fremont taxpayer sources. This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7, VI and will not lapse until the renovations are complete or by December 31, 2010, whichever is sooner. The Selectmen recommend this appropriation and the Budget Committee does not recommend this appropriation.

The Amendment passed. *Article 21 will appear on the ballot as amended.*

Gene Cordes made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21. Brett Hunter seconded. The vote to restrict reconsideration on Articles 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21 passed.

**ARTICLE 22:** To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Fremont Cable Access Expendable Trust Fund created in 2008. No monies are in this fund. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 22 and opened the floor for discussion.

Town Administrator Heidi Carlson explained this Article.

There was no discussion on Article 22. *Article 22 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 23:** To see if the Town will vote to establish a revolving fund pursuant to RSA 31:95-h, for the purpose of Cable Access, and to raise and appropriate twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from cable franchise fees, to be placed in said fund. All revenues received from cable franchise fees will be deposited into the fund, and the money in the fund shall be allowed to accumulate from year to year, and shall not be considered part of the Town's General Fund unreserved fund balance. The Town Treasurer shall have custody of all monies in the fund, and shall pay out the same only upon order of the governing body and no further approval is required by the legislative body to expend. Such funds may be expended only for the purpose for which the fund was created.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 23 and opened the floor for discussion.

Town Administrator Heidi Carlson explained this Article.

There was no discussion on Article 23. *Article 23 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 22 and 23. Brett Hunter seconded. The motion to restrict reconsideration of Articles 22 and 23 passed.

**ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000) for repair of a stone wall on North Road at parcel 06-047.001.003.001 to include necessary safety considerations, such as a guardrail, at this location. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 24 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer said the Town should go through its insurance company and submit a claim.

Don Gates explained how the stonewall is a shared property line. A portion of the rock wall collapsed while the Highway Department was doing routine roadwork. He said an insurance claim has been submitted to the insurance company.

Road Agent Guerwood Holmes explained how the wall collapsed while he was doing routine shoulder work with his backhoe.

Peg Pinkham made a motion to amend Article 24 to insert the words “up to” after appropriate, such that any insurance monies could be used to reduce the Town’s expense for the repairs. Andy Kohlhofer seconded.

Mike Miller asked if the sum of money appropriated is enough?

Gene Cordes explained what has been done to date. An engineer and surveyor were hired. The Selectmen asked for a recommendation from the engineer. The engineer stated that a new wall would need to be erected, and recommended that a guardrail be placed for safety.

Mr. Miller wants assurance that runoff would not drain onto his property. Heidi Carlson explained further information from the Town’s consulting engineer.

**AMENDED ARTICLE 24:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of twenty-two thousand dollars (\$22,000) for repair of a stone wall on North Road at parcel 06-047.001.003.001 to include necessary safety considerations, such as a guardrail, at this location. (Majority vote required.)

Heidi Carlson explained that some money appropriated in the Article would cover some of the small drainage issues. It will not take care of the long-term drainage issue.

Gene Cordes called the question. Lori Holmes seconded.

The Amendment passed. *Article 24 will appear on the ballot as amended.*

**ARTICLE 25:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four hundred twenty-five dollars (\$425) in support of the American Red Cross, Manchester Chapter. If approved, in future years this agency would become part of the Vendor Payments operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 25 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 25. *Article 25 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 26:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 36-A:4-a, I (b) to authorize the Conservation Commission to expend funds for contributions to qualified organizations for the purchase of property interests, or facilitating transactions related thereto, where the property interest is to be held by the qualified organization and the Town will retain no interest in the property.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 26 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 26. *Article 26 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 27:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72:62 for the property tax exemption on real property equipped with solar energy systems, which exemption shall be in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of the solar energy systems, in accordance with NH RSA 72:61, 72:27, 72:33, 72:34; and 72:34-a.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 27 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer stated he was not in favor of this Article and gave explanation why.

Bob Larson, member of the Energy Committee, explained that the Committee's focus is to find ways to reduce energy consumption. He stated that there will be funding and grants to towns that are proactive.

There was no further discussion. *Article 27 will appear on ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 28:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72:66 for the property tax exemption on real property equipped with wind-powered energy systems, which exemption shall be in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of the wind-powered energy systems, in accordance with NH RSA 72:65, 72:27, 72:33, 72:34; and 72:34-a.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 28 and opened the floor for discussion.

Andy Kohlhofer explained why he was opposed to this Article.

Bob Larson explained where the funding and grant monies come from.

Neil Rowland spoke in favor of this Article.

There was no further discussion. *Article 28 will appear on ballot as written.*

Gene Cordes made a motion to restrict reconsideration on Articles 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28. Brett Hunter seconded. The vote to restrict reconsideration on Articles 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28 passed.

**ARTICLE 29:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72:70 for the property tax exemption on real property equipped with wood heating energy systems, which exemption shall be in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of the wood heating energy systems in accordance with NH RSA 72:69, 72:27, 72:33, 72:34; and 72:34-a.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 29 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 29. *Article 29 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 30:** To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of NH RSA 72:37-b Exemption for the Disabled for taxpayers, who, if qualified, shall receive a yearly exemption in an amount of \$50,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 consecutive years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married to each other for at least 5 consecutive years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$25,000, or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$35,000; and own net assets not in excess of \$45,000 excluding the value of the person's residence.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 30 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 30. *Article 30 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 31:** To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 32:5, V-a to require that all votes on recommendations on budget items or warrant articles by the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen shall be recorded votes and that the numerical tally of such votes shall be printed in the Town Warrant next to the affected warrant article.

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 31 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 31. *Article 31 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 32:** To see if the Town will vote to accept deeded title to Risloves Way (approximately 2,660 feet) as designated on Plan # D-31622 and D-32813 from Allan Rislove, with a two year maintenance bond to be held by the Town in the amount of \$50,000. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 32 and opened the floor for discussion.

There was no discussion on Article 32. *Article 32 will appear on the ballot as written.*

**ARTICLE 33:** To see if the Town will vote to accept deeded title to Moose Meadow (approximately 1,150 feet) as designated on Plan # D-34369 from Shawn and Kim Senter, with a two year maintenance bond to be held by the Town in the amount of \$25,000. (Majority vote required.)

Moderator Rydeen read aloud Article 33 and opened the floor for discussion.

Guerwood Holmes said that the roads (both in Article 32 and 33) have been inspected during their construction phases by the Town Engineer and the Road Agent; and that both roads are ready to be accepted.

There was no further discussion on Article 33. *Article 33 will appear on the ballot as written.*

Guerwood Holmes offered sentiments about this meeting and the SB2 process.

Heidi Carlson stated that today's meeting minutes will be available on the Town's website shortly; and that the Voter Guide and additional information about warrants and budgets can be found on the Budget Committee page of the Town website. Voters were also advised that the Voter Guide would contain a one page summary sheet that voters can take with them on Election Day to make the process of reviewing and marking the ballot easier. By using this summary page, you can review the articles and make your choices ahead of time.

The videotape of this meeting should also be available on (Comcast) Channel 22, as Mike Rydeen has videotaped the entire meeting.

Voting on all Articles, 1 - 33 will take place at the Fremont Safety Complex, 425 Main Street, Fremont NH, on polling day, Tuesday March 10, 2009. The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Gene Cordes made a motion to adjourn at 2:00 pm. Brett Hunter seconded. The vote was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori A Holmes  
Town Clerk